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PRESS QUERY

COMPANY (OpUnit or Corporate): MCI

SUBJECT: DISPOSAL OF WASTES IN LEO SAUGET DUMP

REPORTER & MEDIA: Pat Szymczak, Belleville Edition of
St. Louis Globe-Democrat

TIME & DATE: September 19, 1980

QUESTION & RESPONSE:

- Q. I HAVE LEARNED THAT A DUMP OWNED BY LEO SAUGET, EAST OF "DEAD CREEK" AND SOUTH OF QUEENY AVE., AROUND NICKELL AVE. WAS USED TO DISPOSE OF WASTES FROM SEVERAL COMPANIES IN THE AREA, INCLUDING MONSANTO. CAN YOU CONFIRM?
- A. When Monsanto acquired the Commercial Acid Plant in 1917, we continued to dispose of industrial wastes at the plant had done in the past, and we used a landfill operated by Leo Sauget in that area, until the late '20s or early '30s. As we acquired more land, we stopped using that landfill sometime in the late '20s or early '30s.
- Q. WHERE DID YOU DISPOSE OF PLANT WASTES AFTER THAT PERIOD?
- A. We disposed of the chemical wastes on land owned by us.
- Q. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE PLANT WAS INVOLVED IN PRODUCING CHEMICAL WARFARE PRODUCTS AT THE PLANT DURING WORLD WAR II, AND THAT WASTES FROM THESE OPERATIONS WERE DISPOSED OF AT THE LEO SAUGET DUMP SOUTH OF QUEENY AVE. IS THIS CORRECT?
- A. We acquired land north of the plant in 1928. We sold the tract to the U.S. Government on Feb. 24, 1943. The Plant that produced chemicals for World War II was located on that land. It was owned by the Federal Government and operated by Monsanto under the direction of the Federal Government. After the war, we leased the property and subsequently in 1960 we purchased it. In 1971 the property was sold to the Edwin Cooper firm.
- As for Monsanto disposing chemical wastes at the Leo Sauget site in question, we stopped using it in the late '20s or early '30s, well before World War II.
- Q. WHERE WERE THE WASTES DISPOSED OF FROM THE CHEMICAL WARFARE OPERATION?
- A. It is our understanding that these wastes were disposed of on what was then Government property.
- Q. WHAT CHEMICALS WERE MANUFACTURED FOR THE WAR EFFORT AT THE PLANT?
- A. The U.S. Government owned the plant, and the Government had the information on the disposal of wastes. We don't have that information.

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SOURCE OF ANSWER

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